IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice or admission and replace them with the following new claims 3-11:

3. A printer system comprising: a printer; and a host computer having communication control means for polling the printer by sending a status request command to the printer at predetermined intervals to acquire a current status of the printer and for sending print data and a control command to the printer, print control means for generating the print data and the control command, command analysis means for analyzing printer status information sent by the printer in response to the status request command, and access interval alteration means for altering the interval at which the status request command is sent to the printer by the communication control means based on the printer status information.

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4. A printer system according to claim 3; wherein the printer comprises communications control means for enabling bi-directional communications between the printer and the host computer, status control means for generating the printer status information in response to the status request command sent by the host computer, print data analysis means for analyzing the print data, and print execution means for executing printing based on the analyzed print data.

5. A printer system according to claim 3; wherein the access interval alteration means comprises a timer for setting an access interval for sending the status request command, and timer control means for controlling the timer to alter the access interval such that when the printer status information indicates one or more of an abnormality in the printer, a communications abnormality, or a printer busy status, the access interval becomes smaller than when the printer status information indicates a normal operation status.

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6. In a computer system having a printer and a host computer which polls the printer at predetermined intervals to acquire the current status of the printer: access interval alteration means for altering the intervals at which the host computer polls the printer based on the result of the polling.

7. A computer system according to claim 6; wherein the access interval alteration means is provided in the host computer.

8. A computer system according to claim 6; wherein the access interval alteration means alters the intervals such that when, as a result of the polling performed by the host computer, the printer indicates one or more of an abnormality in the printer, a communications abnormality, or a printer

busy status, the intervals become smaller than when the printer indicates a normal operation status.

9. A computer system according to claim 8; wherein the access interval alteration means comprises a timer for determining the predetermined intervals and timer control means for controlling the timer to alter the predetermined intervals.

10. A computer system according to claim 6; wherein the host computer comprises communication control means for polling the printer by sending a status request command to the printer at predetermined intervals to acquire a current status of the printer and for sending print data and a control command to the printer, print control means for generating the print data and the control command, command analysis means for analyzing printer status information sent by the printer in response to the status request command, and access interval alteration means for altering the predetermined intervals at which the status request command is sent to the printer by the communication control means based on the printer status information.

11. A computer system according to claim 8; wherein the printer comprises communications control means for enabling bi-directional communications between the printer and